

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15
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O 180735Z JUL 78 ZFF-4
FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1770
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS

UNCLAS PRETORIA 4048

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PORG, SF, WA, PDEV
SUBJECT: TEXT OF RICHARD WALKER ARTICLE

FOLLOWING IS THE FULL TEXT OF RICHARD WALKER ARTICLE RUN IN THE
JULY 18 RAND DAILY MAIL:

QUOTE:
SA WARNS WEST ON WALVIS BAY

SOUTH AFRICA HAS WARNED THE WEST THAT IT WILL REJECT
THE SOUTH WEST AFRICA PEACE PLAN UNLESS IT IS GIVEN
CATEGORICAL ASSURANCES THAT NOTHING WILL BE DONE TO
CHALLENGE ITS SOVEREIGNTY OVER WALVIS BAY.

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THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, MR. PIK. BOTHA,
DELIVERED THE TOUGH WARNING IN A STORMY TWO-HOUR WEEKEND
SESSION WITH THE AMBASSADORS OF THE UNITED STATES, BRITAIN,
FRANCE, WEST GERMANY AND CANADA.

IN AN EFFORT TO PLACATE SWAPO DEMANDS, THE WEST HAS
INDICATED ITS READINESS FOR A SPECIAL SECURITY COUNCIL

MEETING ON WALVIS BAY, AT WHICH IT WOULD JOIN IN A VOTE SUPPORTING ITS UNIFICATION WITH THE FUTURE NAMIBIA.

THIS MEETING WOULD FOLLOW AND BE ENTIRELY SEPARATE FROM THE TWO COUNCIL SESSIONS REQUIRED TO AUTHORIZE THE EXTRAORDINARY UN POLICING OPERATION FOR INDEPENDENCE ELECTIONS, INVOLVING THE DISPATCH OF ABOUT 5,000 TROOPS AND 1,000 ELECTIONS SUPERVISORS.

ON THIS BASIS, WESTERN OFFICIALS ARGUE THAT IT WILL HAVE NO EFFECT ON THE DEAL ACCEPTED BY SOUTH AFRICA -- AND NOW ALSO BY THE FRONTLINE STATES AND SWAPO -- WHICH SPECIFICALLY OMITS ANY CHALLENGE TO THE STATUS OF WALVIS BAY AS A PART OF SOUTH AFRICA.

BUT ALL SOUTH AFRICAN EFFORTS TO ASCERTAIN THE WORKING OF THE DETAILS OF THE PROPOSED SECURITY COUNCIL ACTION AND ITS ACCOMPANYING RESOLUTION HAVE MET WITH VAGUE RESPONSES, SOURCES SAID.

SOUTH AFRICA WAS NOW DEMANDING TO KNOW THE PRECISE WORKING OF THE RESOLUTION.

MEANWHILE SOUTH AFRICA'S UN MISSION HEAD, MR. ADRIAAN EKSTEEN, TOLD A PRESS CONFERENCE SOUTH AFRICA WOULD NEGOTIATE OVER WALVIS BAY WITH THE FUTURE ELECTED SWA
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GOVERNMENT.

"THEY SAY WE MUST NEGOTIATE ... WE WILL NEGOTIATE WITH THE DULY ELECTED GOVERNMENT. BUT WE ARE NOT GOING TO GIVE IT AWAY."

SOUTH AFRICA WOULD WANT A "CANDID" DISCLOSURE OF ANY WESTERN PLANS TO ADDRESS THE ISSUE IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL, SO THAT IT COULD EXAMINE THEM IN DETAIL AND CONSIDER THE LEGAL IMPLICATIONS.

"WE DON'T SEE THE NEED FOR WALVIS BAY TO BE MENTIONED IN ANY SORT OF PROPOSAL," HE CAUTIONED.

HE URGED SECURITY COUNCIL AUTHORIZATION OF THE UN SUPERVISED INDEPENDENCE OPERATION "AS SOON AS POSSIBLE."

HE LEFT IT OPEN THAT SOUTH AFRICA MIGHT CONTRIBUTE TO THE MASSIVE COST OF THE OPERATION. "WE'LL CONSIDER THAT LATER ON," HE SAID.

CLOSED-DOOR CONSULTATIONS ON THE POLICING OPERATION

BEGAN AT THE UN YESTERDAY, WITH THE WEST BRIEFING AFRICAN
AMBASSADORS.

THE HOLD-UP IS OVER SWAPO LEADER MR. SAM NUJOMA, WHO
IS NOW EXPECTED TO ATTEND A MEETING OF MON-ALIGNED
COUNTRIES IN BELGRADE BEFORE GOING TO THE UN. UNQUOTE.
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